truecraft®

BIRDSCARER

BEFORE OPERATING THE BIRDSCARER PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN FULL

Operating Instructions

BIRDSCARER
Prod. No. **06218**

BIRDSCARER CONVERSION KIT
Prod. No. **06219**

SPALDINGS®

Spaldings Limited,
Sadler Road, Lincoln LN6 3XJ
Tel: 01522 500600
Fax: 0800 716040
E-mail: agsales@spaldings.co.uk
Web: www.spaldings.co.uk

Spaldings (Ireland) Limited,
Moydrum Business Park,
Athlone, Co. Westmeath
Tel: 090 6486008
Fax: 090 6486133
E-mail: info@spaldings.ie

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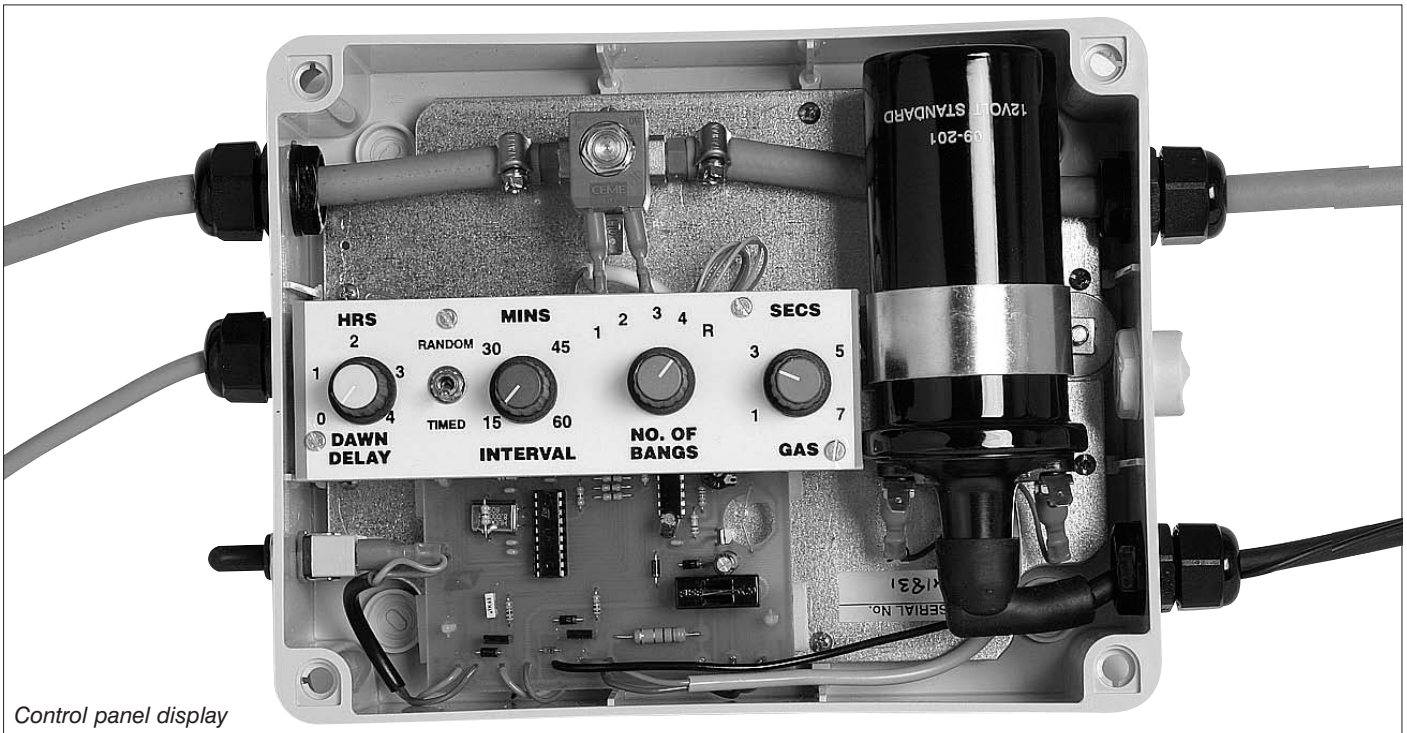
1. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS



Control panel display

1.0 Getting started

- To operate the gas gun you will need a 12 volt battery and a cylinder of **Propane Gas** (see note right under power supply).
- Place the gas gun in a suitable position making sure there is nothing obstructing the barrel. Take particular care in standing crops as obstructions could be ignited.
- Connect the regulator to the gas cylinder and turn on the supply valve ensuring there is no gas leakage. **Always keep gas cylinders upright.**
- Connect the battery to the two crocodile clips ensuring correct connection, red to positive (+) and black to negative (-).

1.1 Selecting the number of bangs at each firing

- Set the knob indicated “NO. OF BANGS” to the number of bangs required at each firing. There is a delay of approximately 10 seconds between the bangs.
- Make your selection from 1 to 4 or R. The “R” setting will give a random number of bangs at each firing of between 1 to 4.

1.2 Selecting the interval between firing

- Set the “RANDOM / TIMED” switch to “TIMED” to pre-set the interval between firings.
- Use the “INTERVAL / MINS” control knob to set the required interval between firings at between 15 to 60 minutes.
- Alternatively switch to “RANDOM” for a random interval between firings of 15 to 60 minutes.

1.3 Selecting morning delay

To be adjusted for light summer mornings to delay the start of firing and so avoid creating a nuisance.

- Use the “HRS / DAWN DELAY” control knob to set the required dawn delay time, from 1 to 4 hours.

1.4 Volume control

- Use the “SECS / GAS” control knob to set the amount of gas released into the gas chamber, suggested setting approximately 3 secs.

1.5 Test mode

- To test fire the birdscarer, press and release the black toggle switch on the side of the control box. After 5 seconds the birdscarer will make one test bang. This facility will work at any time, day or night.

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2. POWER SUPPLY

2.0 GAS

– The gas gun birdscarer is operated by **Propane Gas** which is usually dispensed in orange/red containers.
Do not use BUTANE GAS (usually in blue containers).
Do not use BLACK TOPPED PROPANE as used on forklifts.

2.1 Lead acid battery

– Do not use old batteries as these tend to discharge very quickly.
– We recommend the use of a deep cycle 12 volt lead acid battery as found in tractors etc. We don't recommend purchasing batteries that incorporate nicad cells usually found in modern cars. These usually go into deep discharge and are difficult to recharge.

2.2 Compact rechargeable battery

– The Truecraft Birdscarer can also be powered by a compact rechargeable 12 volt (2.8 amp hours) battery (Prod. No. 06255).
– To wire up the compact rechargeable 12 volt battery, cut off the crocodile clips and crimp a female spade connector onto the cable end.
– Fit the spade connector with the red wire to the red connector on the battery and the spade connector with the blue wire to the black connector on the battery.
– Alternatively, use the crocodile clips provided and clip onto the spade terminals in the usual way.
– When recharging the compact battery, allow 24 hours for a full charge.

Optional compact rechargable battery

Prod. No. **06255** 12 volt (2.8 amp hours) Compact rechargeable battery.
Prod. No. **06254** Battery charger for 06255.

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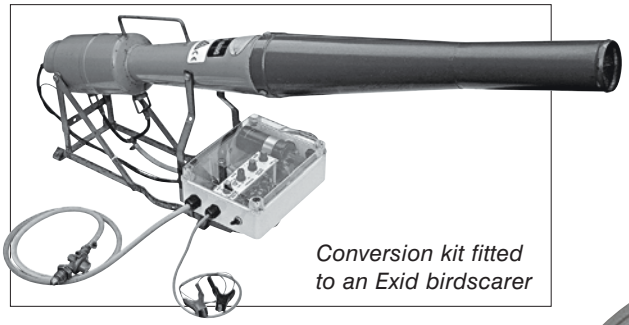
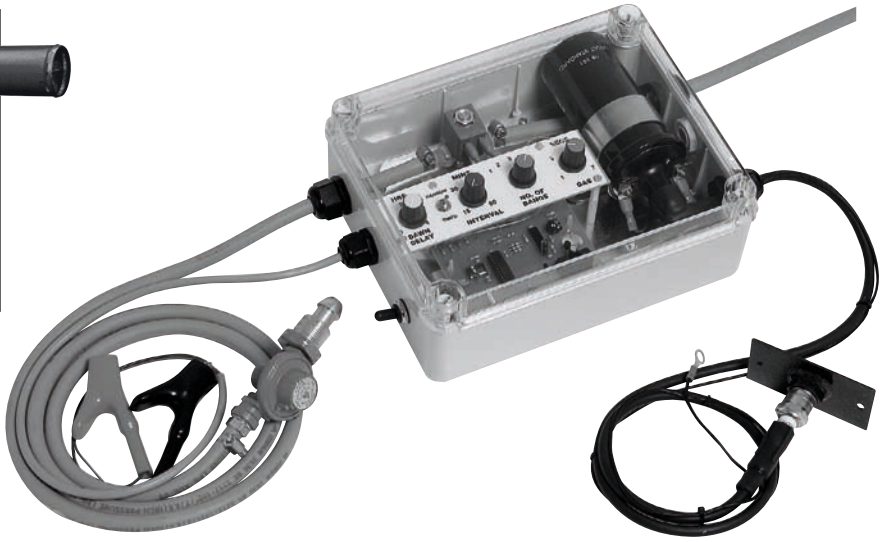
NEVER CHANGE THE PROPANE GAS CYLINDER WHILST SMOKING OR NEAR A NAKED FLAME.

3. CONVERSION KIT FITTING INSTRUCTIONS



Conversion kit fitted to an Exid birdscarer



3.0 Conversion kit to fit:

The Conversion Kit is designed to convert and modernise Zon*, Exid and many other makes of mechanical / electrical scarers into electronically controlled birdscarers.

3.1 Conversion method

1. Strip the mechanics away from the existing birdscarer so that the body and frame remain.
Important Note: Please avoid drilling holes in the plastic control box as this will let water/moisture into the box causing premature failure. If a hole has to be drilled, ensure a silicon sealer is used to maintain a waterproof seal.
2. Take the spark plug plate from the kit and using it as a template mark the two securing holes and the centre plug hole. The template should be positioned centrally at the rear of the gas chamber.
3. Drill two ⅛" holes for securing the plug plate. Then drill a ½" hole and enlarge so that the spark plug will fit through the hole.
4. Using two No. 8 x ½" self-tapping screws secure the plate, attaching the earth wire to one of these. If a welder is available tack weld the plate for extra security.
5. Fit the spark plug (taking care not to over tighten) and the ignition lead.
6. Fit the gas hose on to the existing jet assembly underneath the birdscarer and secure using a size 000 jubilee clip.
7. Always ensure the Air Breather valve on the side of the control box points in a **downward** position.
8. Connect battery and test fire the birdscarer using the test fire facility.

***NOTE:**
If converting a ZON mechanical bird scarer, a gas tube and block are available FOC if problems are encountered during conversion.

Additional fitting instructions are also available on request.

TOOLS REQUIRED for CONVERSION:
– **Power drill**
– **Drill bits – ⅛" and ½"**
– **Pozi-drive screwdriver**
– **Adjustable spanner**

4. NOTES FOR EFFECTIVE AND SAFE USE

4.0 Positioning / Camouflaging the birdscarer

- **Change the position of the BIRDSCARER AS FREQUENTLY as possible.**
- The attention of the birds is drawn to gas guns by the noise they produce. If such devices are to continue to scare it is important that the birds acquire as little information about them as possible. Guns are usually painted bright colours and are often sited conspicuously.
  The best effect is produced if they are placed in a hide of branches etc. However if they are hidden the fire risks, and also the possibility of alarming people unaware of their presence needs to be considered.
  An alternative way to camouflage an auditory scarer is to hide it in a very conspicuous container surrounded by many identical but otherwise empty ones, for example it may be possible to house a gas gun in a brightly coloured metal drum laid on its side with several similar empty drums in other positions in the field.
  If the gun is moved from one drum to another the birds will learn to associate the unpleasant sound with the drums but will not be able to predict which drum will emit the noise. In this situation they will often avoid all the drums, therefore the area protected by a single gun can be increased. This effect can be further improved by occasionally changing the colour and position of the drums from time to time.
- **Reinforce the deterrent by occasionally shooting in the vicinity.**
- Point the barrel of the BIRDSCARER downwind.
- For best results the scatter-bird should not be set more than once every 15 to 20 minutes.
- Keep the photocell on the control panel clear, to allow the circuit board to identify night and day.

For more information on the effectiveness of auditory bird scarers refer to the DEFRA website:
www.defra.gov.uk/environment/quality/noise/research/birdscaring/index.htm

Always adhere to the NFU bird scarers code which can be viewed at:
www.nfuonline.com/x40819.xml

NEVER CHANGE THE PROPANE GAS CYLINDER WHILST SMOKING OR NEAR A NAKED FLAME.

5. TROUBLE SHOOTING

5.0 Checking the control box

- Before going through this operation **make sure the gas is TURNED OFF and DISCONNECTED**, and all residual gas has been expelled from the barrel.
- Press the test fire button, wait 5 seconds, then you should hear one definite loud click (this is the solenoid letting in the gas). 3 seconds later you should hear another definite single click (this is the solenoid closing, stopping the gas entering the chamber) followed immediately by a buzzing noise from inside the chamber. (This is the spark plug sparking to ignite the gas). If this is not happening then either the circuit board, solenoid valve or spark coil could be faulty and advice from Spaldings should be sought.
- Check the on board fuse (a 20mm 1 amp glass fuse) and replace if necessary.
  Replacement 20mm 1 amp glass fuses are available from Spaldings (prod. 17655).

5.1 Gas delivered to the chamber but no ignition

- The most likely cause will be the spark plug gap. Remove the spark plug and set the gap to 2mm wide. The gas gun may misfire if the gap is any narrower or any wider.
- A faulty HT lead causing the spark to jump onto the metal body before reaching the spark plug can also cause this problem. Check the HT lead / Spark Plug connector.
- If both the above remedies fail the problem is most likely to be a blockage in the gas line leading to the chamber which causes the air to gas ratio to be disturbed. This can be caused by dirty gas or soil being picked up by the regulator when changing gas cylinders etc. Take out the gas block and check the nipple is not blocked. Clear with nozzle cleaners if necessary, **DO NOT** use a drill bit to clean it out.
- Another cause of the problem could be the REGULATOR which may have been replaced since leaving the factory. So as not to upset the air to gas ratio the replacement must be a 1 BAR REGULATOR.

5.2 No gas being delivered

- Check to see the gas is turned on.
- Check to see that the solenoid is working, (see section 5.0 – Checking the control box).
- Check the jet, (see section 5.1 – Gas delivered etc).
- Check the REGULATOR IS 1 BAR (see section 5.1 – Gas delivered etc).
- If you are still experiencing problems or need advice contact Spaldings Customer Services department.

5.3 Replacement parts

Prod. No. 17655 1 amp glass fuse. Pack of 10.
Prod. No. 17656 RN9LCC spark plug. Pack of 2.
Prod. No. 17719 Replacement gas regulator.

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DO NOT USE OLD BATTERIES AS THESE TEND TO DISCHARGE VERY QUICKLY